# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3729
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2015
Rate of Pollution
Sampath Shri Anirudhan

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the rate of pollution in 7 places out of 10 under the Central Pollution Control Board is consistently on the rise;
(b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the corrective measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) & (b) National Air Quality Index (AQI) is a public information tool for reporting daily air quality in simplistic manner to general public. The Central Pollution Control Board started disseminating information on AQI since 6th April, 2015 for 10 cities of the country. Now, AQI is available for 14 cities. The analysis of AQI for the month of August 2015 reveals that out of 14 cities, 08 cities namely, Agra, Ahmedabad, Bangaluru, Hyderabad, Kanpur, Mumbai, Navi Mumbai and Pune have 80% of AQI values under Good and Satisfactory categories. Similarly, the analysis of AQI for the month of September 2015 reveals that out of 14 cities, 03 cities namely, Agra, Chennai and Mumbai have 80% of AQI values under Good and Satisfactory categories. It reflects a mixed trend.

(c) The measures being taken by the Government to control pollution inter alia include;
â€¢ Notification of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (2009), envisaging 12 pollutants;
â€¢ Formulation of regulations / statutes;
â€¢ Setting up of monitoring network for assessment of ambient air quality;
â€¢ Introduction of cleaner / alternate fuels like gaseous fuel (CNG, LPG), ethanol blend etc. replacing petrol and diesel;
â€¢ Promotion of public transport network of metro, buses, e-rickshaws etc.;
â€¢ Promotion of cleaner production processes;

Taking note of the gravity of air pollution, the Government has taken some more measures as listed below:
â€¢ Launching of Clean India Mission (Swatch Bharat Abhiyan);
â€¢ Draft rules for handling and management of municipal wastes including construction and demolition waste rules notified for comments of stakeholders;
â€¢ National Air Quality index launched by the Prime Minister in April, 2015 starting with 14 cities;
â€¢ Implementation of Bharat Stage IV norms in the 63 selected cities and universalization of BS-IV by 2017;
â€¢ Ministry of Road Transport and Highways on 27.11.2015 issued two Draft Notifications issued for advancing the implementation time lines to 2019 for BS- V and 2021 for BS- VI for comments of stakeholders;
â€¢ Banning of burning of leaves, biomass, municipal solid waste in Delhi;
â€¢ Levying environment compensation charge on goods vehicles entering Delhi;
â€¢ Regular co-ordination meetings being held at official and ministerial level with Delhi and other State Governments within the National Capital Region (NCR) and Punjab;
â€¢ Short-term plan has been reviewed and long-term plans have been formulated by states to mitigate pollution in NCR;
â€¢ Stringent industrial standards have been formulated and notified for public/stakeholder's comments; standards for sugar industry have been finalized;
â€¢ Government is giving high priority for public partnership in lane discipline, car pooling, vehicle maintenance, pollution under control certification, action against visibly polluting vehicles etc.;
â€¢ Out of 3386 major industries, 1782 industries have installed on-line continuous (24x7) monitoring devices; others are in process of installing;
â€¢ New standards for thermal power plants have been issued for gazette notification;
â€¢ Directions under section 18(1) (b) of The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 being issued to enforcing agencies; and
â€¢ Construction of peripheral eastern and western expressways to divert non-destined vehicles.

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